

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 15th June 1889.

CONTENTS:

Page.

Page.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

Nil.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police—

Police reform	...	...	495
The Police and religious mendicants	...	...	ib.
An untraced murder at Bolepore in the district of Beerbhoom	...	...	ib.
The Sealdah Railway Police and coolie recruiting	...	...	ib.
Mr. Clark District Superintendent of Police, Dacca	...	...	496

(b)—Working of the Courts—

Baboo Jadu Nath Basu, Deputy Magistrate of Cutwa	ib.
The Indian Courts and the native press	...

(c)—Jails—

Nil.

(d)—Education—

The 14 years' rule	...	...	497
The last University Examinations	...	...	ib.
Messrs. Rowe and Hoernle	...	...	498
Baboo Dina Nath Sen, Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle	...	...	ib.
Selection of examiners by the Syndicate of the Calcutta University	...	...	ib.
Baboo Dina Nath Sen as Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle	...	...	499
The last University Examinations	...	...	ib.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration—

The District Board of Howrah and the Local Board of Uluberiah	...	...	501
The Berhampore Municipality	...	...	ib.

(f)—Questions affecting the land—

Nil.

(g)—Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation—

The Memari-Mantesvara road in the district of Burdwan	ib.
---	-----	-----	-----

(h)—General—

The story of English atrocities in Burma	...	...	ib.
Amendment of the factory law	...	...	502
A secret circular of the Government of India	...	...	ib.
Sir Steuart Bayley and Civilian offenders	...	...	ib.
English doings in Burma	...	...	503
English doings in Burma	...	...	ib.
Mr. Phillips on leave	...	...	ib.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

The proposed Devottar and Pirottar law	ib.
--	-----	-----	-----

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

Cashmere	...	...	...	504
Cashmere	...	...	...	ib.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division	...	...	505
Distress at Basirhat, Baduriya and other places, in the 24-Pergunnahs district	...	...	506
Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division	...	...	ib.

	<i>Page.</i>
Distress in Orissa ...	508
Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division ...	507
Scarcity at Kuripole in Jessore ...	ib.
Scarcity in the Debipore thana in the Diamond Harbour sub-division ...	ib.
Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division ...	ib.
Distress in the country ...	ib.
Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division ...	508

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Scarcity of water at Nowhata in the Mukshudpore thana in zillah Furreedpore ...	ib.
The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Calcutta ...	ib.
Lord Reay ...	ib.
Sir Auckland Colvin ...	ib.
Frequency of famine in the country ...	509
A woman enticed away by coolie recruiters ...	ib.
Indigo oppression in the district of Jessore ...	ib.

URIYA PAPERS.

	<i>Page.</i>
Distress in Bhograi ...	509
Mr. Cornish as a famine relief officer ...	510
Beggars in Cuttack and Balasore ...	ib.
Distress in the Orissa Gurjats ...	ib.
Cholera in Orissa ...	ib.
Cholera at Chandbali ...	ib.
Cholera in Angul and other places ...	ib.
Scarcity in Orissa ...	511
Relief operations at Bhograi ...	ib.
Beggars in Cuttack town ...	ib.
Distress in Angul and other places ...	ib.
Increase of crime in Cuttack town ...	ib.
Assessors in the Cuttack Sessions Court ...	ib.

ASSAM PAPERS.

Nil.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	" Kasipore Nibási " ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	30	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
2	" Ahammadi " ...	Tangail, Mymensingh	450	
3	" Ave Maria " ...	Calcutta	.....
4	" Divákar " ...	Ditto	.....
5	" Gaura Duta " ...	Maldah	.....
6	" Purva Bangabási " ...	Noakholly	.....
7	" Purva Darpan " ...	Chittagong	700	
8	" Uttara Banga Hitaishi " ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	" Arya Darpan " ...	Calcutta	102	31st May 1889.
10	" Bangabási " ...	Ditto	20,000	8th June 1889.
11	" Burdwán Sanjibani " ...	Burdwan	302	4th ditto.
12	" Chandra Vilásh " ...	Berhampore	250	
13	" Cháruvartá " ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	500	3rd ditto.
14	" Chattal Gazette " ...	Chittagong	800	
15	" Dacca Prakásh " ...	Dacca	1,200	9th ditto.
16	" Education Gazette " ...	Hooghly	885	7th ditto.
17	" Faridpur Hitaishini " ...	Faridpur	.....	4th ditto.
18	" Garib " ...	Dacca	3,000	
19	" Grambási " ...	Uluberia	800	1st & 8th June 1889.
20	" Gaurab " ...	Ditto	.....
21	" Guru Charana " ...	Calcutta	.....	6th June 1889.
22	" Hindu Ranjika " ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	300	
23	" Jagatbási " ...	Calcutta	750	
24	" Murshidábád Patriká " ...	Berhampore	508	
25	" Murshidábád Pratinidhi " ...	Ditto	350	
26	" Navavibhákar Sádharani " ...	Calcutta	600	3rd & 10th June 1889.
27	" Prajá Bandhu " ...	Chandernagore	995	
28	" Pratikár " ...	Berhampore	600	7th June 1889.
29	" Rungpore Dik Prakásh " ...	Kakinia, Rungpore	205	
30	" Sahachar " ...	Calcutta	500	15th ditto.
31	" Samaya " ...	Ditto	3,806	7th ditto.
32	" Sanjivani " ...	Ditto	4,000	8th ditto.
33	" Sansodhini " ...	Chittagong	800	
34	" Santi " ...	Calcutta	3,722	12th ditto.
35	" Saráswat Patra " ...	Dacca	300	
36	" Som Prakásh " ...	Calcutta	1,000	10th ditto.
37	" Srímanta Saudagár " ...	Ditto	.....
38	" Sulabha Samáchar o Kusadaha " ...	Ditto	800	7th ditto.
39	" Surabhi o Patáka " ...	Ditto	700	6th ditto.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
<i>Daily.</i>				
40	"Dainik o Samáchár Chandriká" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	5th, 6th & 9th to 11th June 1889.
41	"Samvád Prabhákar" ...	Ditto ...	800	7th to 13th June 1889.
42	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	7th to 13th ditto.
43	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ...	Ditto ...	500	
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	.....	10th June 1889.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
45	"Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Sámachár Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	20	
46	"Kshatriya Pratiká" ...	Patna ...	200	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
47	"Aryávarta" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	1st ditto.
48	"Behar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	.....
49	"Bhárat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,653	30th May 1889.
50	"Sár Sudhánidhi" ...	Ditto ...	500	
51	"Uchit Baktá" ...	Ditto ...	4,500	
52	"Hindi Samáchár" ...	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
53	"Jám-Jahán-numá" ...	Calcutta ...	250	31st ditto.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
54	"Aftal Alum Arrah" ...	Arrah ...	300	
55	"Akhbar Tusdiq-i-Hind" ...	Calcutta ...	...
56	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....
57	"Gauhur" ...	Calcutta ...	196	4th June 1889.
58	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar" ...	Behar ...	150	
59	"Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	.....
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
60	"Akhbar-i-darusaltanat" ...	Calcutta ...	340	
<i>Daily.</i>				
61	"Urdu Guide" ...	Calcutta ...	212	
URIA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
62	"Asha" ...	Cuttack ...	.....
63	"Taraka and Subhavártá" ...	Ditto ...	.....
64	"Pradíp" ...	Ditto ...	.....
65	"Samyabadi" ...	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Dipaka" ...	Cuttack ...	.....	1st June 1889.
67	"Utkal Dípiká" ...	Ditto ...	444	25th May & 1st June 1889.
68	"Balasore Samvad Váhika" ...	Balasore ...	205	23rd & 30th May 1889.
69	"Urya and Navasamvád" ...	Ditto ...	600	22nd & 29th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
70	"Silchar" ...	Silchar ...	500	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
71	"Paridarshak" ...	Sylhet ...	450	

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 30th May, cannot understand why Government does not take steps to reform the police. Is it its wish that the people of this country should continue to be oppressed by the police?

BHARAT MITRA,
May 30th, 1889.

The police and religious mendicants.

suffered much oppression.

2. The *Chāruvārtā*, of the 3rd June, says that the orders of Government, directing the police to keep a sharp eye on Sannyasis and other mendicants, will lead to oppression. Tarak Brahma has

CHARUVARTTA,
June 3rd, 1889.

An untraced murder at Bolepore in the district of Beerbhoom.

3. A correspondent of the *Surabhi-o-Patākā*, of the 6th June, says that on the 9th of May last a woman was brutally murdered in broad daylight at the hāt at Bolepore, in the district of Beerbhoom, by some drunkards and notorious budmashes. The police failed to detect the culprits and challaned some persons on suspicion. The Magistrate of Beerbhoom has acquitted all the persons challaned except one, who has been committed to the Sessions. The police enquiry in the case was most unsatisfactory, and an anonymous application for a fresh enquiry having been sent to the Magistrate, a Deputy Magistrate was deputed to reinvestigate the case. But the enquiry made by the Deputy Magistrate was also of a most superficial nature, and led to no result. So the murderers are still at large. To think only that murderers who have committed a murder in broad daylight should still remain undetected!

SURABHI-O-PATAKA,
June 6th, 1889.

The Bolepore police is notorious for its incapacity. Last year two or three cases of theft occurred at the place, in none of which were the thieves traced. The Magistrate should secretly enquire into this case of murder.

4. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th June, says that even the *Englishman* now admits that the police winks at the illegal proceedings of coolie-recruiters. The following case will illustrate this fact:—

SANJIVANI,
June 8th, 1889.

The Sealdah Railway Police and coolie recruiting.

On the 23rd February last, a gentleman named Babu Banamali Acharjya of Gobardanga saw that several female coolies who were unwilling to go were being forced into a railway carriage at the Sealdah station. The Babu was deeply moved and repeatedly remonstrated with the English proprietor of the coolie depôt as well as the coolie-recruiters, pointing out to them the injustice of their action. But as they paid no heed to his remonstrances, he appealed to the police to interfere. But the police refused to do so. He next came across Mr. Hume, the Government Prosecutor, at the station, and informed him of the fact. When Mr. Hume told the police to interfere, they could no longer look calmly on, but took Banamali Babu and some of the female coolies to the police house and talked with them. But Banamali Babu had failed to take care of all the coolie women, and the coolie-recruiters succeeded in forcing all of them, with the exception of one woman and her girl, into a carriage. Banamali Babu requested the police to take charge of the woman and her daughter and to send them afterwards to their home. But they refused, saying—"We will not take charge of them. It would be illegal to do so." Seeing no other alternative, Banamali Babu thought of bringing the woman and her daughter to the office of this paper and left the station accordingly. But the coolie-recruiters did not even then give up their prey, but tried to persuade the woman to return with them. They were, however, disappointed.

The conduct of the Sealdah Railway Police should be marked. The police, which should be the protector of the people, often acts as their

destroyer. It rather helps coolie-recruiters instead of thwarting them. Will not the police be reformed under the administration of the virtuous Sir Steuart Bayley?

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 9th, 1889.

5. The *Dacca Prākash*, of the 9th June, says that, besides taking rupees 800 as steamer fare (see Report on Native Papers for week ending 1st June, paragraph 11), Mr. Clark, District Superintendent of police, Dacca, has taken more money.

(b)—*Working of the Courts.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 4th, 1889.

6. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th June, says that it is its conviction that, willingly or unwillingly, Baboo Jadu Nath Basu, Deputy Magistrate of Cutwa, does not dispense justice to the people of his sub-division, but commits oppression on them. It has been ascertained that 50 per cent. of the cases tried by Jadu Baboo are reversed on appeal. Now, considering the fact that all cases are not appealed against, and that in many cases the decisions passed are not reversed by appellate courts if only the records are in a satisfactory state, it would be wrong to call the disposal of cases by Jadu Baboo by the name of administration of justice. The case of Baboo Chuni Lal Roy, Sub-Inspector of the thana at Ketugram, is next given as showing the judicial unfitness of the Deputy Magistrate.

SANJIVANI,
June 8th, 1889.

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th June, says that mofussil Magistrates in general, and English Magistrates in particular, cherish very bitter feelings towards the native papers, because those papers expose their high-handedness and despotic proceedings. But if such feelings find vent from the Bench, it will be very difficult for the editors of native newspapers to obtain justice in the mofussil. Two libel cases were recently instituted against this paper—one at Burrisal and the other at Rajshahye. In both the cases warrants were issued in the first instance, though the custom in such cases is to issue summonses before warrants. This course has also been adopted in a libel case against the *Indian Mirror* newspaper. It is very significant in this connection that English Magistrates consult the convenience of English editors in libel cases instituted against the latter; witness Mr. Marsden's conduct in the proceeding lately instituted in his Court on behalf of Mr. Hearsey against the editor of the *Pioneer*. In libel cases instituted against the editors of native newspapers, warrants are issued with the utmost possible haste, as if the editors are so many thieves and dacoits. And yet the English Magistrates profess that all persons are equal in the eye of the law. When the Eurasian Deputy Magistrate of Rajshahye showed so much eagerness to issue a warrant in the first instance against this paper, he left no room for wonder that this paper should be defeated in that case. An appeal was made from the decision of the Eurasian Deputy Magistrate to the District Judge, Mr. Pargiter. But while declaring that, the defamation was not so gross as the Lower Court had thought, Mr. Pargiter did not think it necessary to reduce the sentence. And the reason why he did not reduce the sentence is that he thinks that the native newspapers are in the habit of publishing falsehoods, and therefore require exemplary punishment. Surely justice cannot be expected from a Judge who allows himself to be influenced by views like this in the performance of his judicial duties. There can be no doubt that native editors run great risk of suffering injury at the hands of Judges, who take advantage of their position to vent their spleen against the native papers.

(d)—Education.

8. The *Bhārat Mitra*, of the 30th May, approves of the rule issued by the Director of Public Instruction that boys of or above fourteen years should not be admitted into any class in a Government school lower than the fourth, and recommends that the rule should be extended to private schools.

BHARAT MITRA,
May 30th, 1889.

9. The *Navavibhākar Sādhārānī*, of the 3rd June, makes the following observations on the subject of the last University examinations :—

The last University Examinations.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
June 3rd, 1889.

A great calamity has befallen Bengal. The Examiners of the Calcutta University having plucked seventy-eight per cent. of the candidates for the last Entrance Examination, the country is full of wailings and lamentations. What with the widespread malaria and what chronic scarcity of food, the respectable classes in Bengal are being gradually brought to the verge of ruin. Only a few families may be found in the villages which somehow manage to make the two ends meet. And it is the boys belonging to these families who learn English and hope by this means to be able to better their condition. The result of the last Entrance Examination has dashed to the ground the hopes and expectations cherished through a long course of years by a large number of such boys and their parents. The parents of at least three thousand and five hundred out of the five thousand and five hundred plucked candidates are seized with despondency at this unfavourable result, at this frustration of their hopes, and at this waste of money and labour. And the unlucky boys who have been plucked now find themselves condemned to lead an aimless and burdensome life, with their prospects gone,—an apprenticeship in a Government office, the post of a postal peon, or a teachership on Rs. 8 a month even being considered appointments which are above their reach and for which they must be considered ineligible.

It is to be regretted that complaints such as these have to be made again and again. The year before last the percentage of successful candidates was only twenty-nine ; this year it is even less. But it is idle to complain of this ever-recurring calamity without enquiring into its cause and adopting measures for its prevention. In this connection the following points call for remark :—

(1). A well-known European Professor in Calcutta is heard to say that, when they pass the Entrance Examination, the students are found to possess so little knowledge of English that when in the college classes they cannot understand the lectures given to them by their Professors, and consequently they do not benefit by those lectures, and thus the labours of the Professors are in most cases lost. The Professor is, therefore, of opinion that the Entrance Examination should be made very stiff, and this is being actually done. But the Professor's view is not correct. A few years ago there was no such thing as the "test examination;" almost all the boys in the Entrance class were allowed to present themselves at the Entrance Examination, and the Entrance Examination itself was not so difficult as at present. And yet in those days no Professor ever complained of his lectures not being understood by his pupils in the college classes, and of his labour being wasted. It may be argued that a higher standard of English is now taught in the college classes than formerly, and that therefore it is necessary and desirable that the candidates for the Entrance Examination should be subjected to a severer test than before. But all that need be stated in reply is that, as a matter of fact, English is not now taught in the college classes as well as it used to be formerly. The writer is not prepared to admit that the new graduates of the University show greater proficiency in the knowledge of English and in English composition than the old graduates Rashbihari, Ashutosh, and Chundranath.

It may therefore well be that the Professors do not at the present time care to take the trouble and follow the mode of teaching which in those days formed the chief features of a Professor's collegiate duties. In those days the subjects of study were diligently explained to the boys in a manner which seemed suited to their capacities; now the Professors treat the students to lectures in the preparation and delivery of which they consult their own convenience more than the capacity and requirements of their students. In short the Professors do not now care to take pains to teach their students, and are therefore anxious to take only such select boys as may by their own efforts succeed in passing the examinations of the University, leaving them (the Professors) to have an easy time of it altogether, and to pocket their salaries without doing much hard work. The demand made by these men that the Entrance Examination should be made increasingly severe is therefore a demand prompted by purely selfish motives.

(2). The idea that the University is a purely examining body, and can, as such, by making its examinations increasingly severe, raise the standard of education higher and higher, is an exceedingly erroneous one, almost as erroneous, in fact, as the idea that crime can only be checked by the infliction of very severe punishments. Examinations may be made increasingly severe at the mere will and caprice of individuals, but it is not possible to improve the character of education in so summary and off-hand a manner. The physical, mental, social, and pecuniary condition of the student, and the ability, patience, power of work, and the intellectual and moral equipment of the teacher, are some of the factors upon which all solid education depends, and the idea that the more difficult the examination, the more profound will the education become, is, therefore, simply absurd. If it had been otherwise, these sapient examiners of the Calcutta University might well have been deputed for a few years to the Sonthal Pergunnahs, there to make the experiment of raising Nya Dumka to the level of learned Navadwipa.

CHARUVARTÁ,
June 3rd, 1889.

Messrs Rowe and Hørnle.

10. The *Cháruvârtá*, of the 3rd June, referring to the reappointment as Examiners of Messrs. Rowe and Hørnle, who are said to have lost some answer papers, exclaims—"Three cheers for the justice and discretion of the University."

PRAJA BANDU,
June 7th, 1889.

Baboo Dina Nath Sen, Inspector of
Schools, Eastern Circle.

11. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 7th June, is glad to learn that Baboo Dina Nath Sen has been confirmed in his post of Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle.

SAMAYA,
June 7th, 1889.

Selection of Examiners by the Syndi-
cate of the Calcutta University.

12. The *Samaya*, of the 7th June, says that the Syndicate of the Calcutta University is often guilty of gross carelessness in the selection of Examiners, and makes the following remarks by way of illustration:—

1. Captain Sadler has been appointed examiner in Arabic at the next F.A. and B.A. Examinations. But did the University authorities take any steps to inform themselves whether or not the Captain is well versed in Arabic? One of the members of the Syndicate proposed the Captain's name, saying that he one day saw the Captain reading an Arabic book, and the Syndicate at once concluded that the Captain must be an Arabic scholar! Two Maulavis have been appointed Examiners at the Entrance Examination, and the Captain being the senior Examiner, will have to supervise the work which will be done by them. How the Syndicate could possibly consent to this arrangement passes the writer's comprehension.

2. Baboo Mahendra Nath Roy has been appointed Examiner in Mathematics at the F.A. Examination in place of Baboo

Bipin Chandra Gupta. Which of the two is the better Mathematician?

3. The appointment of Mr. Rowe, a notorious native hater, as Head Examiner in English at the Entrance Examination, is very objectionable. Again, one is at a loss to understand why one Mr. Wheeler, who passed the B.A. Examination of the Calcutta University the other day, and is only 21 or 22 years of age, has been selected Examiner at the Entrance Examination.
4. Mr. Wheeler is a second class B.A., and yet the University authorities have given him preference to many first class M.A's. Not only this, but they have made a clerk or the Superintendent of a School Examiner at the Entrance examination. Were there no better men to take their places?
5. Mr. Billing's selection is open to the same objection as that of Mr. Wheeler. Mr. Billing, passed the F.A. Examination of the Calcutta University in 1886, and it is for the public to judge whether such a man ought to have been appointed Examiner. While Messrs. Wheeler and Billings have been appointed Examiners, the name of Baboo Prasanna Kumar Raya, Prem Chand Roychand student, is not to be found in the list.
6. Messrs. Young and Bamford, who have been appointed Examiners at the same examination, have taken no degrees in the Calcutta University.

When the Calcutta University was established, its examinations used to be conducted by competent Europeans. Then, as education went on spreading amongst the natives, the best men amongst the latter began to be appointed Examiners. But now-a-days the selection of Examiners goes by recommendation, each member of the Syndicate selecting his own men as Examiners, irrespective of all considerations of fitness or ability.

A friend of the writer, who is a graduate of the Calcutta University, applied for an examinership. Being a man of great independence of character, he did not ask anybody to support his application. He was told that he could not be appointed examiner because he was an outsider. But a private tutor in the service of one of the members of the Syndicate, also an outsider, has been appointed an examiner. Do not such doings bring discredit on the Syndicate and the University?

13. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 9th June, is glad to learn that Baboo Dina Nath Sen has been confirmed in his post of Inspector of Schools, Eastern Circle. The people of the country feel themselves honored by the elevation of Dina Baboo.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 9th, 1889.

Baboo Dina Nath Sen as Inspector
of Schools, Eastern Circle.

14. In continuing its article on the last University Examinations, (see paragraph 9) the *Navavibhakar Sadharani*, of the 10th June, says that it may well

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
June 10th, 1889.

The last University Examinations.

be, and the belief is not unoften shared by the general public, that the large percentage of failure in the recent examinations of the University is not quite disagreeable to Government. Be that as it may, and admitting that neither the Viceroy nor the Lieutenant-Governor has given any directions, written or verbal, to the examiners on this subject, it would be no wonder if any adverse opinion which may have found favour with high officials should influence the examiners. Even the Viceroy himself has been found, in season and out of season, to dissuade the graduates of the

University from seeking appointments in the public service. Government, it is clear, does not desire to see crowds of applicants for the public service; and it is just possible that, seeing as it does that most of those who pass the University examinations are eager to enter its service, it should think of devising means to prevent large numbers of candidates from passing those examinations. And if Government should really be of this mind, it would be no wonder if its views should filter down and come to be imbibed by the pettiest examiners of the University. There can be no question that, as a matter of fact, such views are held by many of the examiners, at least by many of the head examiners. But these views are erroneous and unsound.

1. It is not true that success in the University examinations enables a man only to enter the public service. Such success is absolutely necessary also to enable him to practise any respectable or independent profession, such as lecturing, medicine, law, engineering, &c. It is thus clear that a boy of respectable parentage, if plucked in any of the University examinations, loses the chance of entering the public service as well as of practising any of the respectable professions. And he cannot take to agriculture, because, although Bengal is an agricultural country, still for various reasons agriculture does not in this country provide a man of respectable classes with the means of living. It is extremely unjust to adopt measures which, though designed to reduce the number of candidates for the public service, have also the effect of barring people of respectable birth from the respectable professions.

The possession of University certificates is regarded as a very valuable qualification. Even native females now think lightly of the man who cannot show at least one certificate—the certificate of having passed the Entrance Examination of the University. So, it has come to this, that plucked candidates think very ill of themselves and consider their lives a burden to them. This belief is fraught with extremely evil consequences. It leads to indolence, worthlessness and evil-doing. That is why failure in the Entrance Examination often leads a boy to take to vicious courses of life. It behoves Government to consider whether, in view of such results, namely, increase in the number of worthless and wicked men, the Entrance Examination should be made more and more severe.

2. Government should maintain perfect harmony between the quality of the education given in its schools and colleges and the character of its University Examinations. The examinations should be such as can be passed by a candidate who has received the sort of education which is or can be imparted in the schools and colleges with which Government is connected. If it is found, as the results of the University Examinations show, that the quality of the education given in such schools and colleges is not of the required standard, it should clearly be the duty of Government to improve it. And until this is done, Government will lay itself open to the charge of neglect of duty and of taking school fees under false pretences, if it allows the University Examinations to be made very severe.

It is true that the quality of education cannot be improved in a day, that it can only be improved slowly and gradually. But is it not also on that account the duty of the authorities to increase the severity of the examinations slowly and gradually? Is it really impossible to do this gradually without reducing the percentage of successful candidates? The University and the Education Department are equally under the control of Government, and perfect harmony should be maintained between the two. It will not do to say that the University is a self-governing body. It was and still is a saheb-ridden body, and the only difference between its earlier and later days is that, whereas formerly the Saheb Professors worked hard, the Saheb Professors are not now willing to do so. Hence the present examination difficulty.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

15. The *Grámvási*, of the 1st June, says that the members of the present District Board of Howrah and Local Board of Uluberia have not fulfilled the expectations which were once entertained regarding them. It is therefore the duty of the local public to select better men at the ensuing elections, which will take place in September next. The voters' lists prepared on the occasion of the last elections were defective because they did not contain the names of many persons entitled to vote. These lists should therefore be corrected, and every effort made by the voters to get their names inserted therein.

The District Board of Howrah and the Local Board of Uluberia.

GRAMVASI,
June 1st, 1889.

16. The *Pratikár*, of the 7th June, complains that the Berhampore Municipality has taken no notice of the complaints it has made from time to time regarding the emission of dreadful stench from privies and drains in certain parts of the municipality, and the dangerous condition of the Murighat at Khagra.

The Berhampore Municipality.

PRATIKAR,
June 7th, 1889.

(g)—*Railways and communications including canals and irrigation.*

17. A correspondent of the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th June, asks the District Board of Burdwan to construct culverts over the khals at the points where they are crossed by the road leading from Memari to Mantesvara in the district of Burdwan. The absence of culverts is much felt during the rainy season.

The Memari-Mantesvara road in the district of Burdwan.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 4th, 1889.

(h)—*General.*

18. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 7th June, has the following on the alleged atrocities committed by Englishmen in Burma:—Burma has been conquered by Englishmen. It has been conquered on the plea of saving the people of Burma from the oppressions of their King Theebaw. But a perusal of the account of the oppressions which the English are themselves committing in Burma will be sufficiently horrifying to make the roof of the tongue dry, to shake the inmost soul, and to cause the whole body to thrill with a feeling that cannot be described. Whoever reflects upon the conduct of Englishmen in Burma cannot help conceiving hatred for them.

The story of English atrocities in Burma.

PRAJA BANDHU,
June 7th, 1889.

The people of the country knew perfectly well what sort of a man Lord Dufferin was. That he was an adept in the art of crooked statesmanship has been often shewn in this paper. That he was ever ready to tell lies, to commit forgery, and to practise roguery for selfish purposes is also well known. It is therefore no wonder that he should have taken credit for the conquest of Burma by suppressing all real information regarding the state of that country. But now for the first time the real condition of the country under the British rule has been made known in the letter of a European correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* newspaper. The substance of the letter alluded to is then given in Bengali and the following comments are made:—

"Our pen cannot describe these demoniacal affairs any further. We must stop here. But O Englishmen, say truly, placing your hand on your hearts, and with God as your witness—say whether you or King Theebaw is more oppressive, and whether you or the people of Burma are dacoits. We do not know whether there is any expiation whatever for what you

are doing. It is even doubtful whether the blood of ten Jesuses will be sufficient to purchase expiation for your sins. Know that you will have one day to suffer the consequences of this sin of yours.

PRATIKAR,
June 7th, 1889.

19. The *Pratikar*, of the 7th June, says that India is not governed according to the spirit of the Queen's Proclamation. In everything the interests of

Amendment of the factory law.

India are sacrificed to those of England. The import duty on English piece-goods brought to India has been abolished, but the import duty on Indian goods sent to England has been retained. The Manchester merchants complain that they cannot compete with the Indian mill-owners because Indian labour is so much more cheap than English labour. And the just English Government, while professing that the English Factory law cannot be worked in India, proposes to raise the wages of labour in this country by extending the operation of the Indian Factory Act, and by raising the minimum age of labourers from 7 to 9 years. Nothing but a regard for the interests of English merchants could have induced Government to propose these amendments in the Indian Factory law without being called upon by the people of this country to do so. 'India does not envy England the lump of sugar with which she enriches her cup of milk. Why does England envy poor India the pinch of salt with which she seasons her potherb?' If the wages of labour are to be raised in India in the interests of Manchester, should not a bi-metallic currency be adopted in England in the interest of India?

Let not the English Government follow a policy of gross injustice to India. It has increased the rigour of the Factory law in spite of the protests of the Indian people. Assuming that it has done so from a purely philanthropic motive, the question arises, why does it not put an end to the oppressions which are committed on coolies in the tea-gardens, who suffer far greater hardships than any to which factory labourers are subject? The selfishness of Government has become sickening to the people of India who are crying shame upon it.

SAMAYA,
June 7th, 1889.

20. The *Samaya*, of the 7th June, refers to a secret circular recently issued by the Government of India to the

A secret circular of the Government of India.

railway offices in Western India, prohibiting the officers of Government from raising money by subscription in aid of political purposes, and remarks that the circular in question should have prohibited the officers of Government from raising money by subscription, not only for political purposes, but for all purposes whatever. For the raising of money by subscription by Government officers always leads to oppression, as the money collected by such means is never given voluntarily. Is it not true that the money raised for the Lady Dufferin Fund and the Imperial Institute was in many instances money forcibly raised? The fact that the circular in question has been issued only to the railway offices in Western India reveals a distinct purpose on the part of the Government of India to injure the interests of the Congress which is to meet at Bombay.

SAMAYA.

21. The same paper says that Sir Steuart Bayley behaves at times like a bad ruler. He seems to feel a strong

Sir Steuart Bayley and Civilian offenders.

attachment for the civilians, and sometimes rewards offending members of that body whom the public want to see punished. The cases of Messrs. Posford, Beames, and Phillips prove this clearly. Mr. Posford, of Backergunge, was severely rebuked by the High Court, but instead of degrading him, Sir Steuart promoted him soon after to the first grade. Mr. Beames' return to the Board of Revenue after a temporary banishment therefrom tells the same tale.

Lastly, while the whole native press is complaining of Mr. Phillips' doings in Rajshahye, and while the Secretary of State for India has himself rebuked him for editing the *Calcutta Review*, Sir Steuart Bayley has promoted him to the second grade, though temporarily. It should be borne in mind, moreover, that this is the second time that Mr. Phillips has been promoted in the course of a year. This partiality for civilians will soon secure a bad name for Sir Steuart.

22. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th June, says that the cruelties which, according to an English correspondent of the *Indian Daily News*, are being practised by

English doings in Burma.

English troops in Burma are of the most cruel description. The writer observes as follows on the subject:—

"The English raised the clamour that Theebaw was a murderer and a despotic ruler, and on those grounds deposed him. How is it that such hateful and bestial acts are now being committed under the enlightened Government of a Christian nation? One feels ashamed to make those acts public. If the country is to be governed according to this barbarous method, and with such bloodshed, why boast of civilisation; why profess to follow an enlightened policy? We appeal to Government in the name of religion, in the name of Christ, in the name of the innocent women and children of Burma, to do its duty by promptly putting down this brutal oppression."

23. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 9th June, says that the English are committing the most atrocious crimes in Burma.

English doings in Burma.

They are killing its people and deflowering its women and looting its treasures. The courts of justice, presided over by English Judges, have become the most potent engines of oppression, and are passing sentences of death in the most offhand manner. The country has become well nigh depopulated, and Government is already settling black Feringhees in the country, and is thinking of peopling it with emigrants from Behar! And this proposal of colonisation has emanated from the dewan of a native zemindar, who has gained much credit by making it.

So long as there are vast tracts of unoccupied land in Chota Nagpore, the Sonthal Pergunnahs and the western part of Orissa, one does not know what this proposal to emigrate to Upper Burma means. The dewan's proposal was evidently made for the sake of making a name for himself. The sin which the English are committing by their acts in Burma is of a character to alarm their subjects in this country.

24. The *Dainik o Samachar Chandrika*, of the 10th June, says that the dispute regarding the bridge on the Narad

Mr. Phillips on leave.

in Rajshahye is not yet over, and the case in the High Court against Mr. Phillips is still pending. But Mr. Phillips has been granted two months' leave, and Mr. Justice Tottenham says that nothing will be gained by issuing a rule against him. Whenever a Civilian does a wrong thing he goes away on leave and thereby escapes punishment. It is the popular belief that the authorities intentionally screen guilty Civilians by granting them leave on these occasions. It must, however, be very painful to see such an imputation made against Sir Steuart Bayley. But there can be no doubt that the Government of Bengal has done a very wrong thing by granting leave to Mr. Phillips before the decision of the case in connection with the Narad bridge.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

25. The *Dainik o Samachar Chandrika*, of the 10th June, says

The proposed Devottar and Pirottar law.

that the Government of India asked for the opinion of the Local Governments on the proposed law for the management of *Devottar* and *Pirottar* properties by

SANJIVANI,
June 8th, 1889.

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 9th, 1889.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 10th, 1889.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 10th, 1889.

Government. It is not known what opinions have been expressed by the different Local Governments on that subject. It is to be hoped, however, that Sir Steuart Bayley will not be led by the recent conduct of the Mahanta of Tarkeswar to approve of that measure. The existence of a few black sheep among Mahantas and Mollahs cannot justify the Government's taking over the management of religious endowments. If it is necessary to remove a wicked Mahanta, the Hindu community will do so; and if it is necessary to remove a wicked Mollah, the Mahomedan community will do so. A Christian Government cannot in justice interfere in the religious affairs of the Hindus and Mussulmans. The unjust attempt made by Sir George Campbell to make such an interference failed. It cannot be that Sir Steuart Bayley will countenance such a wrong measure.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
June 4th, 1889.

26. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th June, thus examines the *Pioneer* newspaper's statement in defence of Government's recent action in regard to Cashmere:—

The *Pioneer* says that the Maharaja is incapable of carrying on the administration of his State. But was any enquiry made to ascertain the correctness or otherwise of this, or was this simply accepted as true on the authority of Colonel Nisbet? All rulers are not equally wise or competent, and where a ruler is himself not very competent, an able minister can keep things straight. And Cashmere was in want of an able minister. But it was owing to the Resident that Cashmere had not an able minister. Baboo Nilambar was an able minister, and will the *Pioneer* say why he was removed? Government could have put an end to the Cashmere difficulty by giving that State a competent minister. But instead of doing that it has made Colonel Nisbet *de facto* ruler of Cashmere!

Next comes the statement that the Maharaja was himself willing to abdicate. And the question again arises, was any enquiry made to ascertain the truth of this? Did anybody, for instance, enquire why the Maharaja was so anxious to abdicate the throne of his father and grandfather? Does any man willingly forego the honours of royalty? The *Amrita Bazar Patrika* says that the Maharaja was intimidated into writing his letter of abdication, and that he was not willing to part with his regal powers. And the public in this country is also of that opinion. Government ought to enquire whether or not there is truth in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika's* statement. It has made the Resident all-in-all in Cashmere. But was any Native State ever well governed by a Resident? The arrangements made for Cashmere will only lead to fresh complications and injure the interests of the State. Will not Parliament enquire into this change in the administration of an important State like Cashmere?

SOM PRAKASH,
June 10th, 1889.

27. The *Som Prakash*, of the 10th June, says that, by compelling the Maharajah of Cashmere to abdicate, Lord Lansdowne has done a very improper thing.

Before taking that step, His Excellency should have enquired whether the Maharajah had anything to say in the matter, and the more so, because the Maharajah addressed a representation to him on the subject. But has that representation reached Lord Lansdowne at all, or has it been intercepted on the way by some secret agency of Colonel Nisbet's?

It is said that the Maharajah himself expressed a desire to abdicate; but there is the authority of a Cashmere correspondent to say that this is wholly untrue. After consulting with Amar Singh, Colonel Nisbet told the Maharajah that it was Lord Lansdowne's desire that he should abdicate for some time, and the Maharajah had no other course open to him than to submit quietly. This is the origin of the abdication story published in the *Pioneer*.

The charge of incompetency brought against the Maharajah is next referred to and refuted; and it is remarked, in conclusion, that the statement that Cashmere has been misgoverned by the Maharajah is false, that the subjects of the Cashmere State are as well off as the people of the Punjab, and that the Cashmere peasantry are even better off than the ryots of the Punjab.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

28. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th June, has the following on the subject of the distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division:—

SAHACHAR,
June 5th, 1889.

In reporting on the condition of the Diamond Harbour sub-division, Mr. Bolton, Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs district, has made use of a stereotyped expression which all European officers of Government are in the habit of using in relation to such occurrences. The expression is "there is much distress, but no famine." This expression was made use of at the commencement of the terrible famine in the south of India, which numbered thousands among its victims, and was also heard in connection with the famine in Ganjam before Lord Connemara's visit to the distressed tract.

In the present instance, if Sir Steuart Bayley were to visit the Diamond Harbour sub-division, he would see that he would have to deal with a much more serious thing in that sub-division than mere distress.

As the Diamond Harbour sub-division is within easy reach of communication by land and water, the question arises, has food grain been imported into the sub-division for the purpose of relieving the distressed? The answer must be in the negative. Grain has not been sent in to the sub-division simply because there is no one able to purchase it there.

The fact is that the European officers of Government attach very little value to the lives of the people of this country. If it were otherwise, the Government of Lord Lytton could not have commenced the Afghan War, and Sir George Couper could not have gone on collecting Government revenue by sucking the life blood of the people at a time when there was famine in the North-West and the South of India and lots of people were daily dying of starvation.

Sir John Strachey's remark that famine is necessary in this country to drain it of its superfluous population, and the scale of ration given by Sir Richard Temple to the famine-stricken people in the South of India also prove the same thing. Even Sir Rivers Thompson, who was a good Christian, and whose knowledge of Bengal was intimate, thought that two pice per day was sufficient allowance for a full-grown Bengali labourer.

It is not to be supposed from this that the European official is naturally a hard-hearted man. On the contrary, he often distinguishes himself by acts of charity. But directly he sets foot on the soil of India, he is a changed man. He is surrounded by lots of cringing, salaaming kitmutgars and bearers, who seem to be dead to all sense of self-respect, and who never think of resenting even the grossest insults done to them by their master. And when he compares himself with these men, he cannot help likening himself to a god and looking down upon the people of the country, from among whom his domestics come, as no better than cats and dogs. It is for this reason that, when a European is guilty of murdering a native of this country, Rs. 30 is considered sufficient bail for him. It is also for this reason that a European officer can describe an actual famine to which hundreds of people are daily falling victims as a case of simple distress.

It is no wonder therefore that Mr. Bolton should have described the famine in the Diamond Harbour sub-division in the way he has done. Probably the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs district would have admitted

the existence of famine in the sub-division if he had trodden upon a dead body at every step.

Be that as it may, there is famine in the country, and famine is rapidly spreading. And the question is, will Government, which is spending money recklessly on petty wars in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, in Sikkim, and in Upper Burma, come to the help of the distressed people? It is true that relief works have been opened in several places, and the lower classes of people are availing themselves freely of them. But there is a class of people in the country who would rather die of want than work as labourers for their daily bread. And how are these men to be saved? Lord Beaconsfield once said that England considers herself a great Mahomedan power. This is no doubt because England has inherited the boundless power and influence of the Mahomedan rulers and not their virtues. For even the worst of Mahomedan rulers would have distributed food amongst the people in times of distress like this, and even furnished them with cooked food from the royal kitchen. But no such thing is to be expected in these days of stereotyped civilisation. No one expects, for instance, that lots of famished people will be fed at Belvedere or at Government House.

The time has therefore assuredly come for Government to distribute money amongst the people to relieve their distress. The very fact that Government has to be thus reminded of its duty by the people in times like the present shows that, however good intentioned it may be, it cannot always act as the country requires it to act. Who shall say after this that the Congress has appeared before its time?

SAHACHAR,
June 5th, 1889.

29. The same paper says that signs of distress have made themselves visible at Basirhat, Baduriya and other parts of the 24-Pergunnahs. Theft and robbery are rife, and people fear to go out after nightfall.

The other day a party carrying a dead body to the riverside at Baduriya was attacked and robbed by a number of men armed with sticks. It is hoped that Sir Steuart Bayley will take steps to put down the distress in this part of the 24-Pergunnahs district.

PRAJA BANDHU,
June 7th, 1889.

Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

30. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 7th June, is receiving from its special correspondent, who has been touring through the Diamond Harbour sub-division, touching accounts of the distress prevailing there, and wonders that Government has yet taken no steps in the matter.

BANGABASI,
June 8th, 1889.

Distress in Orissa.

31. The *Bangabási*, of the 8th June, publishes the following from its Cuttack correspondent:—

About one thousand distressed people have come to Cuttack from Ganjam, from Nayagar, Khandpara, Daspalla, Baramba and Ranpore of the Uttack Gurjat Mehals and from the Khurda, Banki and Angul khas mehals, and who shall say how many more of such people will come? There is no hope of the *aus* crop, and though, if there be rainfall yet, some *aman* crop may be hoped for, that crop will not be reaped before another six months. But the situation during the intervening period will be very critical. Coarse rice is now selling at 10 seers per rupee, and it is very hard to obtain it in the mofussil even at that price. The outlook is really gloomy. None but well-to-do people can get two meals during the day in the town, and the case is even worse in the mofussil. The sufferings of middle class people know no bounds. The mahajans have seized the opportunity to stop the sale of rice. Rice is not now procurable even in the important mofussil hâts. Cases of murder, robbery and incendiarism are being frequently heard of. Men cannot venture out at night even in the town. Some private gentlemen are affording relief to the distressed people at Cuttack.

32. The same paper publishes the following from a correspondent on the distress in the khas mehals in the Diamond Harbour sub-division :—

Distress in the Diamond Harbour Sub-division.

The condition of the villages Chandipore, Narayanpore, Siddhibere, Bansbere, Shamnagar, Aswatthabere, Dhoparhat, Sikirhat, Radhanagar and some other villages in the khas mehals is very deplorable. No sluice gate having been made at Satpukur, crops have not grown well in those places during the last three years. Over and above this, there was a total failure of crops last year on account of floods. For the want of a sluice gate at Satpukur, about 30,000 bighas of land could not be cultivated. Of these 30,000 bighas, 15,000 are situated in the khas mehals. A sluice gate should be constructed at Satpukur without delay. Chandipore, Narayanpore and Siddhibere are not less than 20 miles from Diamond Harbour, and no relief works have been opened near those places. There are 150 families at Chandipore. Of these 72 cannot get meals every day. Everyone is reduced, and many have eaten up the seed-grains and sold their cattle. Consequently they will not be able to carry on agricultural operations next year. The ryots can get no work to do, because no relief works have been opened, and there are no gentlemen living in that part who can give them work. There are fifty or sixty families at Siddhibere. Almost everybody is starving here. No cattle are to be found in the cowsheds, and the people have been reduced to skeletons. No relief works have been opened, and the men are so weak that even if relief works are opened they will not be able to work. Three persons have died of starvation during the last month, namely, (1) a daughter of three years of age of Badan Gharami; (2) a daughter of four years of age of Abhay Haldar; (3) a son of three years of age of Mathur Purkait. Several persons are starving in the village, of whom the following are in a critical condition—(1) Parikshit Naskar, (2) the mother of Mathur Haldar.

33. A correspondent of the same paper, writing from Kuripole in Maheshpore in Jessore, says that there has been no rain and the crops in the fields are likely to be destroyed. Scarcity seems imminent. Rice is selling at Rs. 3½ per maund, and the price will soon rise to Rs. 4.

Scarcity at Kuripole in Jessore.

BANGABASI.

34. Another correspondent of the same paper says that the majority of the inhabitants of Debipore, Basdevpore, Payaratali, Majlispore, Kalitala, Dighra, Gharalia, Boyaldari and other villages in the Debipore thana in the Diamond Harbour sub-division are living on one meal a day. Some of these people have been living on boiled tamarind seeds and dates for the last three or four days. If they do not get rice in a day or two, they will die. If Government does not speedily grant relief, these villages will become desolate. Dukhram Baidya, Isvar Chandra Baidya, Laksminarayan Laskar, Hirananda Kirtan, Bholanath Paik, Devnarain Haldar, Nabin Chandra Mandal, Sambhu Charan Mandal, Gopal Paramanik and some other persons will soon die of starvation with their families.

Scarcity in the Debipore thana in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

BANGABASI.

35. The *Grāmvasī*, of the 8th June, asks Mr. Smith, Commissioner of the Presidency Division, to personally visit the distressed places in the Diamond Harbour sub-division, before submitting the report called for from him by the Lieutenant-Governor, instead of embodying in it such information as may be furnished to him by his subordinate officers.

Distress in the Diamond Harbour sub-division.

GRAMVASI,
June 8th, 1889.

36. The *Som Prakāsh*, of the 10th June, says that now that famine and distress have made their appearance in different parts of Bengal and Behar,

Distress in the country.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 10th, 1889.

Government should give up its attitude of indifference and show the same promptness in relieving the distress of the people which the Government of Lord Northbrook did on the occasion of the Behar famine in 1874-75. Reference is then made to Lord Connemara's visit to the distressed localities in Ganjam, and Sir Steuart Bayley is asked to follow the example of the Governor of Madras and to do his best to remove the distress prevailing in Bengal and Behar.

SOM PRABASH,
June 10th, 1889.

37. A correspondent of the same paper says that distress has assumed a serious form at Mathurapore and the adjacent places in the Diamond Harbour sub-division. The people have lost all sense of shame and are begging for food, and emaciated children of peasants are wandering about naked in the villages. Some of the respectable families are in extreme distress. Helpless old women have been brought to death's door and despair and anguish are visible in every face. As the failure of the crops in the sub-division has been owing to the silting up of the khal from Muthurapore to the sluice-gate at Patnighata, the Deputy Magistrate in charge of the sub-division is asked to take steps to re-excavate it.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

HITAISHINI,
June 4th, 1889.

38. A correspondent of the *Hitaishini*, of the 4th June, says that there is great scarcity of water at Nowhata in the Mukshudpore thana, zillah Furreedpore. All the tanks have completely dried up. The villagers have to go one mile off, to Mochna, for the purpose of bathing and fetching drinking-water.

GAUHAR,
June 4th, 1889.

39. The *Gauhar*, of the 4th June, says that the officers of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Calcutta, are in the habit of committing great oppression for the sake of petty gain for themselves.

SAHACHAR,
June 5th, 1889.

40. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th June, says that all India approves of the application which the Poona Congress Committee intends making to prolong Lord Reay's tenure of office. It is, however, of opinion that it is because the people of the country love Lord Reay so much that the Anglo-Indians are cherishing so much ill-feeling against him.

SAHACHAR.

41. The same paper asks whether Sir Auckland Colvin will take any action in regard to Dr. Hall, Superintendent of the Allahabad Jail. Sir Auckland is in the habit of saying, apparently in a defiant style, that anything and everything can be done (with impunity) in Egypt and India. But it seems that ere long he will have to reconsider his opinion. He should, at any rate, bear in mind that the Indians are not the Fellaheen of Egypt. The present low political condition of the people of this country is simply owing to the fact that their ancestors, who form the theme of the Ramayana and the Mahabharat, and who laid the foundation of all the sciences, neglected the study of politics. And it would have been impossible for men like Sir Auckland to enjoy their present power if Raja Krishna Chandra Raya and others, who invited Lord Clive to Bengal, had taken the precaution to bind him down by the same conditions which England imposed on William III in 1688. But thanks to the English education which the people of India have received, they now understand their rights, and demand those rights from their ruler. They are ready to make any sacrifice to defend the Empire. And the right of English citizenship will have to be conferred on them sooner or later. Men like Sir Auckland should bear in mind that they are

not acting according to the spirit of the times, and that further persistence in their present policy of indifference will prove suicidal to them.

42. The *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 7th June, says that the free exportation of rice by English merchants is the sole reason why famine has of late become so frequent in this country. The only way to check this free exportation of rice is to levy an export duty on it. But as this will put the English merchants to inconvenience, Government will never consent to do it. It is therefore the duty of the press and the public to take the matter into their consideration. The leaders of the Congress should also pay their attention to it.

PRAJA BANDHU,
June 7th, 1889.

A woman enticed away by coolie recruiters.

43. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th June, publishes the following from its Gauhati correspondent:—

SANJIVANI,
June 8th, 1889.

A woman of 24 years of age was enticed away to Dhubri for the purpose of being sent as a coolie to a tea-garden. It is not known how her name was registered as a coolie at Dhubri. Upon learning her fate in the steamer, the woman became frantic and resisted all efforts made to set her down at Gauhati with a view to her transportation to a tea-garden in Nowgong. Finding it impossible to return home, she at last consented to go with some of her fellow-villagers to the garden to which the latter were going. She was taken with them as far as Dibrugarh, but was brought back to Gauhati, where she was forcibly set down. Upon coming to know the true state of things, the Civil Surgeon reported the matter to the Deputy Commissioner, who has, after enquiry, ordered that the woman should be sent back to her home at the expense of Government. But have any steps been taken to prosecute the coolie-recruiters who enticed away this woman?

44. The *Dainik o Samachar Chandrika*, of the 11th June, refers to the application made to the Lieutenant-Governor against Messrs. Silby and Savi, of the Naoyabata indigo factory in Jessore, and observes as follows:—A similar application was made some time ago, and it was proved on enquiry that the indigo planters were guilty of oppressing the people. But as no steps were taken to punish the offenders on that occasion, the people have again come up to the Lieutenant-Governor for justice.

DAINIK O SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 11th, 1889.

Even if a tenth part of what has been written in the application about the oppression by the indigo-planters be true, the sub-division of Magura must be pronounced to be in a state of utter lawlessness. This state of things reflects great discredit on the local officers. An enquiry should be immediately made into the matter. The writer is alarmed to hear of this new instance of indigo oppression in Bengal, and is apprehensive lest another indigo riot should occur in the country. But he consoles himself with the thought that Sir Steuart Bayley is a far-sighted ruler. The application contains the signatures of more than a hundred men, which means that there must be some foundation for all this.

URIYA PAPERS.

45. The Native Papers of Orissa for the week ending 30th May continue to write leaders, partly declamatory and partly descriptive, on the subject of the present distress in Orissa. The *Uriya and Navasamvad*, of 22nd May, describes the state of the residents of Bhograi, an important station in the northern part of Balasore, in the following words:—

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 22nd 1889.

"Either inundation or drought has been the scourge of Bhograi for the last three years. The villagers have lost not only their seeds, but have been compelled by necessity to sell their agricultural implements. During

the past seven months, the quantity of rainfall has been so small as to cause a serious scarcity of drinking-water. Employment is scarce. Though a considerable number of the strong and able-bodied maintain themselves by labour in distant stations, the widows, the children and the orphans are in a helpless state. Their distress is past description. Their torn rags and their emaciated appearances are sure to melt the hardest hearts."

SAMVADVAHIKA,
May 23rd, 1889.

46. The same paper and its contemporary of the *Samvadbāhikā*, of the 23rd May, pass high encomiums on Mr. Cornish, the Collector of Balasore, for his energetic services in behalf of the distressed and fam-

Mr. Cornish as a famine relief officer.

ished by securing them rice and clothes in a critical period of their existence by means of public subscriptions. The disinterested and priceless services of Rai Kailashchandra Mahasay of Dehurda, in thana Baliapal, are no less valued and recognised. In the estimation of the above-named journals, he has proved a useful assistant to the Collector in the direction and management of relief operations in Bhograi. In fact the services of Mr. Cornish are so valued that the *Utkaldīpikā* of 25th May, holds him up as a model for the guidance of other District Collectors.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
May 23rd, 1889.

47. The *Samvadbāhikā*, of 23rd May, and the *Utkaldīpikā*, of 25th May, notice a considerable increase in the number of roving and helpless beggars in the

Beggars in Cuttack and Balasore.

towns of Balasore and Cuttack. The latter appeals to public charity, and exhorts the Municipalities and the District and Local Boards to procure employment for the day-labourers by undertaking to construct certain works of public utility.

UTKAL DĪPIKA,
May 25th, 1889.

48. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of 25th May, publishes an epitome of economic news concerning the Orissa Gurjats, in which Angul, Khoorda-Dandimal and Khandapara

Distress in the Orissa Gurjats.

are represented to be the most distressed tracts. Of Khandapara it is said that the inability of the Rajah to maintain his subjects in these days of distress has compelled a large number of them to leave their homes in an agony of despair. The poor of Angul and Khoorda-Dandimal are described as being reduced to the last extremity, and it is hinted that unless Government, who are also the khas owners of those states, come forward to render assistance in time, a serious responsibility on account of dreadful consequences may rest on their shoulders.

The papers of the week regret to point out that scarcity of food has led in several places to an active outbreak of cholera and an unexpected increase of crime.

The papers of the week ending 6th June notice the spread of cholera in different parts of Orissa.

SAMVAD BAHIKA,
May 30th, 1889.

49. The *Samvadbāhikā*, of 30th May, reports 20 deaths from that disease in the Balasore town, and is aware of mortality from that source in almost every

Cholera in Orissa.

pergunnah or outpost in that district. As an illustration, specific mention is made of Kuliga, Talpada, Bhimpur, Remuna, Kuarpur, and Shergurh, that are reported to be seriously affected.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
May 29th, 1889.

50. The Chandbali correspondent of the *Uriya and Navasamvād*, of 29th May, makes a sensational report to the effect that about three hundred souls died of

Cholera at Chandbali.

cholera in and around Chandbali within the period of one month.

UTKAL DĪPIKA,
June 1st, 1889.

51. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of 1st June, reports that cholera is as rife in Angul as before. The correspondent of the

Cholera in Angul and other places.

Dipakā, of 1st June, reports that 30 men died of cholera in Kandarkana, Ramgurh, Mathasahi and their adjoining villages in one week only, and that the want of medicines and medical aid is strongly felt in those affected villages.

Scarcity in Orissa.

52. Scarcity of food is another important subject of discussion in the columns of the

Uriya papers.

53. The *Samvadbāhikā*, of the 30th May, and the *Uriya and Nava-samvād*, of 29th May, notice the relief operations at Bhograi, in the Baliapal thana

Relief operations at Bhograi.

of the Balasore district, at length, and are satisfied with the arrangements made by Rai Kailash Chandra Mohasay, of Dehurda, for the distribution of alms and clothes to the poor and famished at Bhograi and Dehurda stations, out of the funds placed at his disposal by public subscription and by the grant of the District Board of Balasore. The number of famine-stricken to whom alms are doled out in that fashion at Bhogai and Deburda is estimated at 350. The number is steadily increasing every day, without a corresponding increase in the relief fund.

54. The *Utkaldīpikā* and *Dipaka*, of 1st June, notice with great regret the increasing number of homeless and famished beggars in the Cuttack town, whom

Beggars in Cuttack town.

distress and poverty have compelled to take shelter therein by throwing themselves on the charity of the opulent members of the Cuttack community. They describe with pleasure the temporary institution of a *annachatra* in that town by Raja Baidyanath Pandit, who has been doling out rice and dāl every day to about five hundred souls; but they suggest that the means of the Raja must be used up soon, and that the charitable public of Cuttack ought to come forward to follow his example.

55. The *Utkaldīpikā*, of 1st June, supplies the public with an epitome of economic news regarding Angul, Daspalla, Narsingpur, Nayagarh, Baramba, Banki,

Distress in Angul and other places.

Ranpur and Hindole, each of which states is represented to be more or less under difficulty arising from a painful scarcity of food. The paper suggests that the donation of Maharani Swarnamayī, amounting to one thousand rupees, which has been reserved to meet a future contingency, ought to be applied in the interests of the poor of Angul, who stand in need of immediate relief.

56. The *Utkaldīpikā* and *Dipaka*, of 1st June, draw the attention of the public to a sudden increase of crime consequent on scarcity of food in the Cuttack

Increase of crime in Cuttack town.

town and in the interior of that district. They also cite instances of crime in support of their observation. A correspondent of the *Utkaldīpikā*, of 1st June, remarks that "robbery attended with violence, thefts and other acts of lawlessness, have suddenly increased within the past few days, and the loyal and peaceful inhabitants of Cuttack are thrown into a state of panic." The same correspondent also regrets to note that the local police are not found equal to their duties.

57. The *Dipaka*, of 1st June, points out that native gentlemen, presumably of Cuttack, are very unwilling to serve as assessors in the court of Sessions, because the language of the summonses

Assessors in the Cuttack Sessions Court.

which are addressed to them is so impolite that even the formality of a "Mr." or an "Esquire" is dispensed with therein, and no seats are provided for them till after the arrival of the Judge, who, though he directs them to attend office precisely at 10 A.M., himself comes after 11 A.M., and generally takes up sessions cases at about 12 noon. Understanding that Government have resolved to appoint a Muhammadan Judge to sit in the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Calcutta, the same paper suggests that a competent member of that community, to whichever part of India he may belong, ought to be nominated.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 15th June 1889.

SAMVAD BAHINIA,
May 30th, 1889.

UTKALDIPIKA, &
DIPAKA,
June 1st, 1889.

UTKALDIPIKA,
June 1st, 1889.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

UTKAL DIPIKA, AND
DIPAKA,
June 1st, 1889.

